

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 5-10 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6 and 10 are amended. Claims 3 and 4 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action, on page 6, paragraph 8, indicates that claim 3 contains allowable subject matter. Applicant appreciates this indication of allowability. The amendments to claim 1 are undertaken in view of this indication of allowability. Thus, claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

The Office Action objects to the drawings because the "anti-cavitation valve" is allegedly not shown in the figures. Claim 4 is canceled rendering this objection moot.

The Office Action objects to the specification due to alleged informalities. The specification is amended as suggested by the Examiner. Thus, withdrawal of the objection is requested.

The Office Action, on page 3, paragraph 1, rejects claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 10 has been amended to overcome this rejection.

The Office Action, on page 3, paragraph 5, rejects claims 1, 2 and 5-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,438,953 to Kamada. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant incorporates the allowable subject matter from dependent claim 3 into independent claim 1 thereby rendering claim 1 allowable. Claims 2 and 5 depend from claim 1. Thus, claims 2 and 5 are allowable at least for the same reasons as claim 1, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

Claim 6 also incorporates the acknowledged allowable subject matter. The amendments to claim 6 are undertaken in view of the indication of allowability, thus claim 6

is in condition for allowance. Claims 7-10 depend from claim 6. Thus, claims 7-10 are allowable at least for the same reasons as claim 6, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

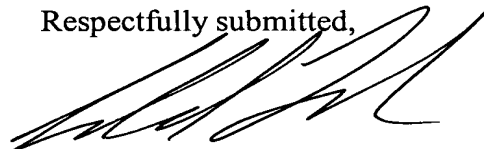
Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 5-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kamada are respectfully requested.

The Office Action, on page 5, paragraph 3, rejects claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamda, as applied to claim 1, in view of Ohta et al. Claim 4 is canceled. Thus, this rejection is moot.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-2, and 5-10 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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